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CENTRAL

INTELLIGENCE

BULLETIN



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29 SEPTEMBER 1959

I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

Khrushchev considering visit to Cambodia en route home from Peiping.

II. ASIA-AFRICA

Nehru blames Indian Communists for contributing to trend toward violence.

Laotian-French relations deteriorate.

Sudanese prime minister urged to establish mixed civilian and military government.

Guinea--President Touré encountering pressure from pro-Soviet element in Guinea Government.

Algerian rebels prepared to discuss cease-fire with France.

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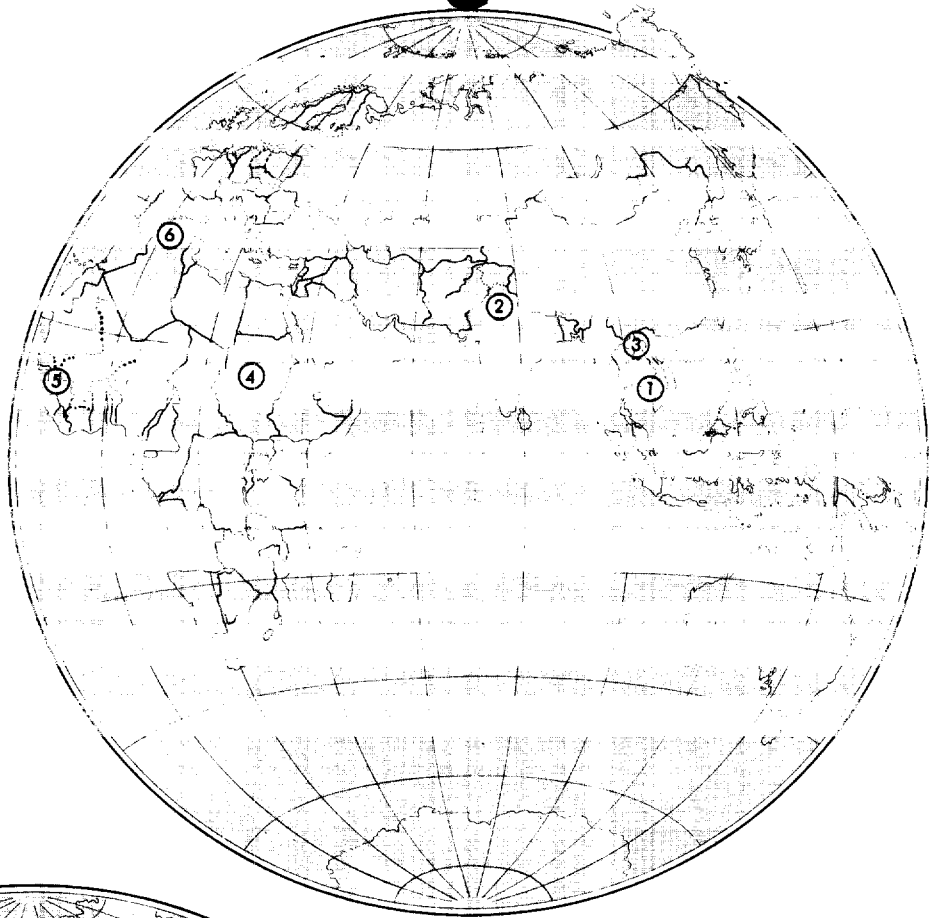
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**III. THE WEST**

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Argentine strike failure temporarily strengthens position of President Frondizi.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

29 September 1959

DAILY BRIEF

I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

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USSR-Cambodia: { Khrushchev is considering making a brief visit to Cambodia following his visit to Peiping, [redacted]

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[redacted] The official noted that a formal invitation from Prince Sihanouk has been outstanding for some time and the possibility of an acceptance by Khrushchev at this time had recently been discussed by Foreign Ministry officials in Moscow. [redacted]

[redacted] Khrushchev had offered to visit India after his Peiping trip, and if Khrushchev is to make that trip he could use the opportunity to stop over briefly in Cambodia to reciprocate for Premier Sihanouk's visit to Moscow of July 1956. Such a gesture on Khrushchev's part would appeal to Premier Sihanouk's vanity and would reinforce Cambodia's neutralist policy. [redacted]

[redacted]

II. ASIA-AFRICA

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India: Indian Prime Minister Nehru, in a strongly worded outburst at a meeting of the executive committee of the Congress party, deplored the growing trend toward violence as illustrated by the assassination of Ceylonese Prime Minister Bandaranaike, the recent disturbances in the West Bengal state assembly, and the Sino-Indian border disputes. Nehru directly blamed Indian Communists for contributing to this trend. The Congress party executive committee has unanimously passed a resolution on India's border position, and New Delhi is considering steps to curb Chinese Communist propaganda in India. [redacted]

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Laos: Strong feelings within the Laotian Government over French inadequacy in military training and over French efforts to play down the seriousness of the current crisis are threatening further to impair relations between the two countries. The French are reacting strongly to an American newspaper article, based on an unattributed interview with Laotian Premier Phoui, stating that Laos would sever "major relations" with France if the Communist threat were contained and US support continued. While Laos is unlikely to carry out this threat, the incident will widen the French-Laotian rift, to the detriment of joint Western efforts to strengthen Laos.

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Sudan: The leader of the powerful conservative Ansar religious sect intends to approach Prime Minister Abboud to protest against the weakness and instability of the present military regime and to ask for a shift to a mixed civilian and military government. Under similar pressure from several influential political leaders, Abboud has publicly declared his willingness to "study" plans for such a transition, but has indicated his opposition to any immediate changes. At the same time, in spite of elaborate government security precautions, a group of dissident junior officers is continuing its efforts to line up enough support for a new coup attempt.

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Guinea: President Sekou Touré, who seems to be attempting to follow a generally neutralist foreign policy, is reported to be encountering increased pressure from the pro-Soviet element in the Guinea Government. Leading this element is National Assembly President Diallo Saifoulaye, whose prestige has been heightened by his successful negotiation in Moscow last month of the \$35,000,000 Soviet loan agreement. Touré is scheduled to visit the US late next month and then the UK. The results of his visits may have an important effect on Toure's relations with the Saifoulaye element.

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DAILY BRIEF

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40 Algeria-France: In its formal reply to De Gaulle's proposals for Algerian self-determination, the Algerian rebel provisional government stated on 28 September that it is prepared to discuss with the French the terms for a cease-fire. While in effect accepting De Gaulle's program as a basis for negotiation, the statement attacked those provisions which provide for the partition of Algeria from the Saharan departments should it eventually elect independence, and reaffirmed the rebels' willingness to continue the war.

The rebel statement--which will probably gain strong backing from the Asia-Africa bloc--is directed toward the long-time rebel goal of direct negotiations with France. In keeping with his previous practice on major policy, De Gaulle is unlikely to feel the need of a further public statement on his part. (There is a hint, however, that Paris has indicated to the Algerians [redacted] that the 16 September proposals are not "the last word." [redacted]) [redacted]

III. THE WEST

OK Argentina: President Frondizi's position has been at least temporarily strengthened by the failure of the Peronista and Communist labor leaders to obtain majority worker adherence to their obviously political strike of 23-24 September. Economy Minister Alsogaray considers this failure a setback to the plans of extremist labor leaders but feels that labor troubles will continue. The government plans new measures to control union activity and to end the wave of terrorism by agitators.

[redacted] (Page 5)

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DAILY BRIEF

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I. THE COMMUNIST BLOC

II. ASIA-AFRICA

Nehru Lashes Out at Communists

Indian Prime Minister Nehru, apparently more than ever convinced that Communists are basically committed to policies involving the use of violence, seized the occasion of a top Congress party policy-making committee meeting on 26 September to denounce Indian Communists in unusually strong terms and to serve notice that his patience with them is becoming short.

Quoting instances of violence in the West Bengal state assembly and elsewhere, Nehru said that this kind of tactic, if permitted in the future, could lead to a repetition of such actions as the assassination of Ceylonese Prime Minister Bandaranaike. However, he did not accuse Communists of assassinating Bandaranaike. Nehru said that the throwing of shoes in the West Bengal assembly was a "disgrace" and "that if this kind of thing happens even in the sacred precincts of the assembly, it is the end of democracy."

Indicating a growing inclination to take firm action against the Communists, Nehru said, "I want to make it perfectly clear that while we shall maintain democratic methods in every way and we shall give every opportunity to every party, we will not tolerate this kind of thing happening, whatever the consequences."

Also demonstrating continued concern over Chinese Communist intentions, Nehru called on the Indian people to give up bickering and strife and to stand united in the face of a serious threat from "a big country" across the frontier. A resolution

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on the Sino-Indian border dispute, originally released on 25 September, was recalled to make India's stand on the border issue more explicit. The revised resolution, issued on 28 September, regretted Chinese abandonment of the principle of coexistence, rejected China's interpretation of the border, and expressed the hope that China would withdraw its unjustified claims.

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The Situation in Laos

(The strong dissatisfaction of the Phoui Sananikone government with France's performance in Laos was again manifested in a background briefing Phoui recently gave to New York Times correspondent MacGregor. The Laotian premier allegedly castigated the French in strong terms and stated that "major relations" with France would be severed once the Communist threat were contained and if American support for Laos continued. The French have indicated serious concern over the article published following this interview; they fear the article will have a disruptive effect on their position in Laos.)

(Phoui's unfavorable attitude stems largely from Laotian dissatisfaction with the poor record of the French military mission, which has consistently been maintained at a fraction of the strength authorized under the 1954 Geneva agreement. Furthermore, Laotian leaders associate the French Army with the military debacle at Dien Bien Phu. In addition, Laotians resent what they consider to be the colonial arrogance and foot-dragging of French military personnel in Laos. The Laotians would prefer that all military training be taken over by the United States.)

(Recent efforts by French representatives in Vientiane to belittle Laotian claims of North Vietnamese involvement in Communist insurgent operations and to blame the crisis on the shortcomings of the Phoui government have added to tension between the two countries. While an open rupture in relations is unlikely, joint Western efforts to strengthen Laos will be hampered.)

(Meanwhile, the UN subcommittee in Laos is going ahead with plans for field inspection trips in some of the areas of fighting. The austerity of living conditions in Vientiane and the confused and inept manner in which the Laotian Government is making the necessary arrangements for the subcommittee to carry out its mission are said to have put subcommittee members in a bad humor.)

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Pro-Communist Elements in Guinea Stepping Up
Pressure on Touré

Elements within the Guinea Government which favor a pro-Soviet orientation are making a serious behind-the-scenes bid for greater influence, according to Ambassador Morrow in Conakry. These elements are being led by National Assembly President Diallo Saifoulaye, an extreme leftist with some grass-roots support who is reportedly waging a quiet campaign to undermine President Sekou Touré's prestige. Other members of the group are presumed to be Minister of Interior and Security Keita Fodeba, Minister of Public Works Ismael Touré--the President's brother, and Guinea's Minister Resident in Ghana Diallo Abdoulaye--all of whom have been identified in the past with the pro-Communist clique. Like Diallo Saifoulaye, they are all also members of the powerful political bureau of Guinea's only political party, the Democratic party of Guinea (PDG), of which Sekou Touré is secretary general.

Ambassador Morrow believes President Touré is attempting to follow a neutralist foreign policy, but is having increasing difficulty holding this line--especially since Diallo Saifoulaye successfully negotiated a \$35,000,000 long-term Soviet credit in Moscow last month. At the PDG's annual congress in Conakry earlier this month, especially invited delegations from five bloc countries played a prominent role while representatives from Western countries, except for a group of French Communists, were conspicuously absent and apparently not invited.

Sekou Touré is scheduled to make a 10-day official visit to the United States commencing on 26 October and then to visit London en route back to Conakry. The results of these visits, and especially his sojourn in the US, may have an important bearing on Touré's ability or inclination to withstand the pressures emanating from the pro-Soviet group in his regime.

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III. THE WEST

Argentine Government Strengthened by Failure of General Strike

The failure of the majority of Argentine workers to support Peronista and Communist labor leaders in their recent general strike call has strengthened the position of President Frondizi's government. The strike leaders' list of demands was directed mainly at forcing Frondizi to abandon austerity measures under the US-backed stabilization program. The political stability of the government is largely dependent on the success of this program in promoting economic recovery.

The Communists appear to have contributed relatively little to the strike. This may cause the Peronistas, who have been disunited over a number of issues, to reassess the value of the labor unity pact they signed with the Communists in August.

Economic Minister Alvaro Alsogaray views the failure of the strike as a "great victory" for the government but anticipates continued labor troubles. Real wages, for example, had fallen in July 1959 to about 60 percent of their level a year earlier. Alsogaray announced on 26 September that the government plans new measures to control labor unions and to end the wave of terrorism by agitators. Numerous bombings occurred during the strike, but there was no major violence requiring the promised assistance of the army commander in chief.

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